A True COPY of a

LETTER

Of the Miraculous CURE of

David Wright

A SHEPPARD, at *Hitchin* in *Hartfordshire.*

BIBLIOTHECA BRITANNICA

Licenced, *Jan.* 20*th.* 1 94.

Dear SIR,

YOurs I received last night; as to the person you inquire after, and the Lord's Work upon him, take in short as follows: ——He is about 27 or 28 years of Age, his Name is *David Wright*; he has lived about 2 or 3 miles from *Hitchin* many years in Service, in the capacity of *A Shepard*, being by reason of his Distemper, uncapable of harder Service. Last *Michaelmass* he desir'd a gracious Woman to hire him; she was not willing because he was given to *Swearing*, and other *Sins*; but he said, *He desired to go to Meetings, which made him have a mind to live with her.* So he was Hired. But afterwards went on in his *evil course*, and sometimes would not come to the *Meeting*. But on the 29*th.* of *November* last, he being told there would be a *Meeting* at *Hitchin*, in the Evening had his mind much fixed to come (notwithstanding the same day he had a *Brother* with a Horse came for him to go some miles another way about urgent business of his own, yet could by no means be prevailed with to go with his *Brother* because of the *Meeting*: He often says, *He can give no reason from himself of this prefixed use.*) He came to hear, and was *Converted, and Healed in his Body*, while the Minister was preaching the Evening above named. The Minister was Mr. *Ed. Coles*, Pastor of a Church of Christ at *Needing worth*. The Sheppard does say, *That he had Faith given him for the cure of his Body the same time when the Spirit of God came upon him, and opened his heart, and gave him Faith in Christ*: And doth still say, *He doth firmly believe he shall not have the Evil any more.* But however God may please to do as to this, This is certain, he has been very well from the 29*th* of *Novemb.* to this very day. But the change that is upon his *Soul* is more remarkable than the *cure* of his *Body*, to see such a sinful and grosly ignorant man so suddenly shine in Grace, blessing and praising God, and admiring his Grace to him; and he who knew nothing one hour, to speak the next of Christ and his things, to the astonishment of those that heard him: But all things are easy with God, who works all for the praise of his own Glory. As to his *Bodily Distempers* he had the *Kings-Evil* for about 15 or 16 years (was formerly touched by *Charles* the Second.) In his younger time was fain to lye weeks together in bed, having great *Pains* and *Running Sores*; but for about 12 years he has been in service for the most part, but never well till this time, but had *Running Sores*, which sometimes did skin over and swell; and then he was always worst, and very full of pain, till they broke and run again. He has had these *Sores* in many parts of his Body; the *Scars* are to be seen; but there were Two that have continued in the same place for a long time, and run; but when they skin'd and swell'd, they were worst (as I said) till they run again. That night he came to the *Meeting* where he was healed of these two Sores (which were in the small of his back) were at worst, that is, skin'd over, and swell'd, and very full of pain, in so much, that he came with great difficulty and pain, and could not keep up with his company; but as they went home, he did go before the others leaping and praising God as he went, and admiring his grace and goodness to him all the way, and so he continued almost all the night after: He came home adoring the love & grace of God, to so vile and ignorant a *Sinner*.

While he was at the *Meeting* his *Sores* that were swelled sunk, and were well on a sudden without pain to him.

To the Truth of this, we who live in the same Family with the *Sheppard*, do testify. Witness our Hands,

Shea Dermer, } *Thomas Child*,
Thomas Dermer, } *Joseph Morgan.*

These Four all live in the Family where the Sheppard lives, and are all Members of our Church; the two first are the Mistress of the House's Sons; the other two her Servants. Much more might be written, but I have not time; I hope this may satisfy.

Your Brother in our Lord Jesus Christ,

Edward Hitchin

Out of another Letter from Hitchin, *dated* Jan. 6th. 169¾.

THE Sheppard at *Offley* hath been troubled with the *Kings-Evil* 15 or 16 years, ſometimes worſe and ſometimes better, ſometimes keeping his bed ſome weeks with the illneſs, hath had Sores in many places at different times, but two he had had a great while (if not always) on the lower part of his back. His *Sores* ſometimes ran, and then his Body was beſt and freeſt from Pains, othertimes they ſtop'd, and skin'd over, and ſwelled, then he was worſt and moſt diſordered: Thoſe two on his back were ſtop'd and ſwelled that night (*viz. Nov. 29th.*) when he came to *Hitchin* and was converted. He told the Brethren, *that at the ſame time he believed in Chriſt for his Soul; he had particular belief for his Body too*; and immediately the ſwelling of his *Sores* fell, and the pain vaniſhed; which eaſe hath alſo continued to this day; ſome of the Brethren have beheld the Scars, and ſeen all well. He hath lived at *Offley* ſome years, and 'tis well known, that he had thoſe Sores. He was touched by King *Charles* the ſecond, and hath a piece of Gold which once he mightily prized. He declares his aſſuredneſs, that the former Pains and Sores will not return again. He is lively and brisk, and content with half the Food and Sleep he was uſed to before, and finds he can go through a great deal more work. That day he came to the Meeting, a Brother of his brought a Horſe 7 or 8 miles for him on a particular occaſion, too long to inſert; but he would not go with him, but ſent him back, telling him he muſt go to a Meeting: And yet he tells us ſince, *He did not know what he went for; nay, he was in a mind to return back before he came at it.*

This is a true Copy of a Letter from Hitchin *in* Hartfordſhire.

ADVERTISEMENT.

LEaſt any ſhould think that the *Perſons at* Hitchin, *or others concerned therein, were Ambitious of Printing this miraculous Cure of* David Wright, *I therefore think well to advertize the Reader, that this Printing is altogether without their knowledge; I only being the Actor therein. And therefore what ſhortneſs you find in the Relation, impute it to my haſte of publiſhing of it, I being going a Journey.*

The manner of my coming by the Letter, is a Chriſtian Friend coming into my Shop, and ask'd me, Whether I had heard of the miraculous Cure at *Hitchin? and ſaid,* That ſuch a Man had a Letter of it. *Whereat I rejoyced; for I had heard ſomething of it about a Fortnight before, and expected that ſome body would have put it in print; but not finding it publiſh'd, I diſpaired thereof, and was troubled in mind, That a* Miracle *ſhould ſo die: And then it came in my mind to get this Letter printed; and ſo I went to him, and requeſted the Letter, which he was unwilling to deliver to print, leaſt it might give offence. But by my Solicitation, and taking the blame to my ſelf; he left me to do my pleaſure, and ſo I put it to a Printer* gratis.

Shall the Son of God Jeſus of Nazareth, *at the right hand of the Father, work* Miracles *in our Age, and ſhall they that belive in him be aſhamed to publiſh it?* No.

Jan. 17. 169¾. Charles Doe.

A Comb-maker at the ſign of the *Boars-head* in the Burrough of *Southwark, London.* — Where the Original Poſt Letter may be ſeen. And any perſon may be ſatisfied of any perſons Name herein mentioned.

POSTSCRIPT.

ABout a Week ſince, the coming of this Letter to London, *there came a Miniſter to him that I had the Letter from, and ſaid, That he had been with the Sheppard, and the* Miracle Cure *holds firm. And amongſt other Diſcourſe, the* Sheppard *ſaid to him,* I went in the Day, and came home in the Night; I went in the Dark, and came home in the Light. *For it was an Evening Lecture he was converted and healed at.*

Jan. 20th. I alſo expect a Letter from *Hitchin* by the next Poſt.

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